APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/849,126	05/04/2001	Avraham Mualem	042390.P10990	9064

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EXAMINER
DINH, MINH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2132	

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/849,126	MUALEM ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Minh Dinh	2132	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nc address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>27 February 2002</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-23 have been examined.

Claim Objections

2.   Claim 19 is objected to because of the following informalities: "An network" in the

preamble should be changed to "A network". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8.   Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite

for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention. The claim recites the limitation "the network adapter is

operative to transfer a second SA and a second associated integrity indicator from the

IHA to the network adapter in response to an indication that the associated integrity

indicator and the computed integrity indicator do not match". It's not clear how the

network adapter transfer data from the IHA to itself. For examination purpose, the

limitation is interpreted as "the IHA is operative to transfer a second SA and a second

associated integrity indicator to the network adapter in response to an indication that the

associated integrity indicator and the computed integrity indicator do not match".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Anand et al (6,370,599) in view of Yoshida (5,928,372).

        b.   Regarding claim 19, which are representative of claims 1-2, 5-6, 11 and

15-16, Anand discloses a network communication system comprising:

        an information handling apparatus (IHA) coupled to a network adapter, said IHA

being operative to transfer a security association (SA) to the network adapter (figures 3-

4);

        the network adaptor being operative to transmit packets encrypted with the SA

via a network (col. 2, lines 46-65).

        Anand does not disclose that the IHA transfers an associated integrity indicator

to the network adapter and that the network adaptor verifies the integrity of the SA and

provides the verification result to the IHA. Yoshida discloses a data transfer system in

which a host processor transfers data and an associated integrity indicator to a

peripheral device and the peripheral device verifies the integrity of the data and

provides the verification result to the host processor (col. 1, line 60 – col. 2, line 20;

figures 20-21). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to incorporate the Yoshida's teaching of verifying the integrity of

data transferred into the Anand system in order to insure the correctness of the

reception data (col. 9, lines 47-54). Accordingly, the IHA transfers an associated

integrity indicator to the network adapter, and the network adaptor verifies the integrity

of the data transferred and provides the verification result to the IHA.

      c.   Regarding claims 3, 7, 12 and 20, Yoshida further discloses that the

peripheral device verifies the integrity of the transferred data by computing a computed

integrity indicator from the transferred data with an integrity checking method, and

determines if the associated integrity indicator and the computed integrity indicator

match (col. 1, line 60 – col. 2, line 20; figure 21, element 24).

      d.   Regarding claim 4, Yoshida does not explicitly disclose providing the

indication by setting an integrity error indicator bit in a memory on the host processor.

However, this feature is deemed to be inherent to the Yoshida method as element 24 of

figure 21 shows that the peripheral device provides the comparison result signal to the

host processor. The Yoshida method would be inoperative if there were no

register/memory on the host processor to store the comparison result signal.

      e.   Regarding claim 8, Yoshida further discloses that the integrity checking

method is a cyclical redundancy checking computations method, a checksum

computations method or a parity checking method (col. 10, lines 55-67).

      f.   Regarding claims 9, 13 and 21, Yoshida further discloses that peripheral

device provides an indication if the associated integrity indicator and the computed

integrity indicator match (figure 21, element 24).

g.   Regarding claims 10, 14 and 23, Anand further discloses that the network

adaptor is operative to receive packets from the network and to decrypt the packets.

Accordingly, the same SA is used to decrypt the packets (col. 2, lines 55-65; col. 4, lines

5-8; fig. 4, elements 154, 166).

h.   Regarding claim 17, Yoshida further discloses that the host processor

computes the associated integrity indicator using an integrity checking method before

transferring the data to the peripheral device (col. 2, lines 1-8).

i.   Regarding claims 18 and 22, Yoshida does not explicitly disclose

retransmission of data and associated integrity indicator if an error is detected.

However, this feature is deemed to be inherent to the Yoshida system as the abstract

and lines 41-50 of column 1 show that errors are prevented to improve reliability of data

transfer. Data transferred according to the Yoshida system would not be reliable if

errors were detected and there were no retransmission of the data.

Conclusion

7.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Kidd et al (6,182,267) discloses a method for providing accurate data checksum.

"The IPSec Offload Solution", Windows IT Pro

"ODI IPSec Offloading Support", Novell

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Minh Dinh whose telephone number is 571-272-3802.

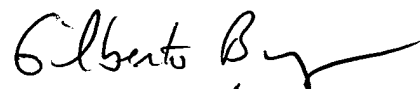The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 10:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MD

Minh Dinh
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

MD
12/07/04

GILBERTO BARRON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100